



# Worcestershire

Infrastructure Consortium

## WIC 'Voices' Hub Representation Bulletin Nov/Dec 2009

### Feedback

One of the key ways of ensuring that the sector is made aware of the work of representatives, is through the use of 'feedback forms'. We have recently revamped these forms and they are available on the WIC website:

[http://www.winc.org.uk/representative\\_feedback\\_form](http://www.winc.org.uk/representative_feedback_form)

or they can be emailed to you. We would encourage all VCS representatives to complete these after your Partnership/Theme Group meeting so that the vital work you are doing on behalf of the sector can be recognised. It will, we hope, also encourage VCS organisations in your area of activity, to contact you if/when they have issues/points they would like you to raise on their behalf. This helps to evidence that the representatives are speaking on behalf of the sector not just their own organisation.

### Short-term Representative Bank

We would like to use this opportunity to promote the establishment of a 'Short-term Representative Bank' for those individuals who do not wish to give a long-term commitment as a representative or who are new to being a VCS representative and wish to 'start slowly'. If you know anyone within your organisation (Trustee, staff or volunteer) who might be interested, please ask them to contact Jim J Smith or myself for further details. We are able to offer induction training and on-going support so please encourage people to consider this option.

### Listening Event

The next Listening Event for VCS Representatives will be held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February at the offices of Age Concern Herefordshire and Worcestershire, Malvern Gate, Worcester, WR2 4BN. Our theme will be:

#### **Representation: Communication, Influence & Change**

This time the event will be from 12midday – 2pm and will include a light lunch as well as the opportunity to meet and network with other representatives. So do make a note in your 2010 diary now

### Deloitte Review

At the last Worcestershire Partnership Board meeting, a brief report was given highlighting the issues which were felt needed to be addressed to better enable the Partnership to fulfil its role. One of these was concerning links to the VCS and we will be hoping to use the Listening Event in February to look at some of the issues and concerns raised. We will endeavour to keep representatives informed as this work progresses.

Representing a Diverse Sector: WIC's Representative induction underlines our duty to represent with the diversity of our sector in mind, and not just from our own particular interests. If you are a long-term representative, and you are unclear of these representational principles please contact us, or review NAVCA's Principles of Representation available at:

[http://www.winc.org.uk/the\\_tools\\_of\\_representation](http://www.winc.org.uk/the_tools_of_representation)

**We hope you find this short Bulletin interesting and informative and we would welcome feedback from representatives as to future content as well as any other ways in which WIC members can provide support for you in your role as a VCS representative. For further information on the content of the above articles please contact either:**

**Sally Ellison, Chair VCS Voices Hub ([sally@wvc.org.uk](mailto:sally@wvc.org.uk)) 01905 24741 or**

**Jim J Smith ([wavocc@btconnect.com](mailto:wavocc@btconnect.com)) 01684 575545**

## New Template to record and monitor VCS involvement with the LAA

Representatives may be interested to know that members of the WIC Voices Hub have been working with Alan Smith, the LAA Performance Manager, to develop a way of recording and acknowledging the high involvement of the VCS in activities which relate to the LAA targets.

Alan has now put together a comprehensive form with clear guidance, which we are looking for VCS organisations to complete and return to him early in the New Year. Our aim is to develop a process which will recognise, and ultimately reward, the VCS for its work in supporting the delivery of the LAA targets. We would be interested to know if representatives would be able to distribute this template to VCS organisations in their sector - please contact Sally at [sally@wvc.org.uk](mailto:sally@wvc.org.uk) if you are willing to assist with this work.

### VCS Representatives

Worcestershire Partnership Management Group	-	Richard Quallington, Community First
Worcestershire Partnership Board	-	Richard Quallington, Community First
	-	Sally Ellison, WIC
	-	John Paxton, Diocese
	-	Peter Oteng, WREC
There are 6 Theme Groups	-	Children and Young People
	-	Health and Social Care
	-	Environment
	-	Safer Communities
	-	Economy and Transport
And under the banner of 'Stronger Communities'	-	Culture Theme Group
	-	Housing Group
	-	Poverty Task Group
	-	and others as appropriate

### Shenstone Group

The Shenstone Group comprises 26 key leaders from across public, private and VCS and meets monthly. The group is seeking a balance between reflection on the nature of partnership and leadership, framework for innovation and delivering hard practical benefits. Thus far, there is a clear synergy between all three. VCS representatives on the Shenstone Group are Richard Quallington, Cathy Clement and Philip Talbot and we will endeavour to keep representatives informed as the work progresses.

### Total Place Project

The Total Place is a national initiative and involves 13 pilots across the Country. Total Place in Worcestershire is working on three themes:

- Reducing the current and future numbers of young people (16 - 25years) not in employment, education or training (NEETS)
- Transforming outcomes and opportunities in areas of highest need
  - reduce reoffending
  - reduce alcohol related hospital admissions
  - holistic review of all activities in a specific place
- Strategic inter-agency property asset management and utilisation.

Again, WIC Voices Hub will endeavour to keep representatives informed as the work progresses.

